1st November 1962]

Dr. A. SREENIVASAN : Is it a fact that posts of Assistants to Collectors were created recently at great expense and yet these two people are not able to cope with the work? Is it due to inefficiency or has the work really increased?

The Hon. Sri R. VENKATARAMAN : The hon. Member is aware that the Collectors of districts have now to attend to a large number and variety of subjects. Particularly with the introduction of the panchayat administration, they have to attend to a number of local problems. Therefore, it is considered advantageous to territorially limit the area of each district.

Dr. A. SREENIVASAN : Will the posts of Assistants to Collectors be abolished after the separation?

The Hon. Sri R. VENKATARAMAN : That will be considered in due time.

திரு. ஆர். வெங்கடாசலம்: தலைவர் அவர்களே, சேலம் மாவட்டத்தைப் பொறுத்தவரையில் ஓமலூர் தாலுகாவாசிகள் விருப்பத்திற்கு மாறாக ஒரு பகுதியில் இணைப்பதாகக் கூறுகிறார்களே, சர்க்கார் அதற்குத் தகுந்த நடவடிக்கை எடுக்குமா என்பதை அறிய விரும்புகிறேன்.

கனம் திரு. ஆர். வெங்கட்டராமன்: இன்னும் அறிக்கை வரவில்லை. அதற்கு முன்னால் வருவதெல்லாம் வதந்திகள்தான்.

Panchayat Radio Maintenance Organization

* 203 *Q.*—Dr. A. SREENIVASAN : Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state the expenditure incurred by the Panchayat Radio Maintenance Organization from 1st September 1961 till date on the establishment charges and purchase of materials and the work turned out during the above period?

The Hon. Sri R. VENKATARAMAN (on behalf of the Hon. the Chief Minister) : The expenditure incurred by the Panchayat Radio Maintenance Organization from 1st September 1961 to 31st March 1962 on establishment and on purchase of materials is as follows :—

	RS.	NP.
1. Establishment charges inclusive of dearness allowance, travelling allowance, other compensatory allowance and other charges.	94,946	83
2. Purchase of materials	27,801	57
Total ..	1,22,748	40

Particulars of work turned out—

(i) Number of radio sets serviced	3,016
(ii) Number of radio sets inspected	1,223
(iii) Number of cinema trailer units, projectors, generators, etc., serviced	131

The Panchayat Radio Maintenance Organization is now engaged in the installation of about 8,000 new radio sets so as to cover every panchayat in the State with a radio set by 2nd October 1962.

DR. A. SREENIVASAN : Is there a Radio subdivision of the Public Works Department from 1st September 1961 till this date? What are its functions and what is the work done by it till now?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : I think a separate question will have to be put about that department.

DR. A. SREENIVASAN : Is it a fact that every now and then this department has been incurring large expense on the purchase of materials as if these materials once used are perishable and that they could not be used again?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : I have given the account of the materials purchased. It is Rs. 27,801 for the period from 1st September 1961 to 31st March 1962. Unless the hon. Member says that in his opinion and with his expert knowledge, this is too large, Government will not be able to go into this question.

DR. A. SREENIVASAN : Will the Government at least arrange to check the invoices of materials purchased from time to time by this Radio subdivision in order to satisfy themselves that the same material is not being purchased once over again?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : Sir, in matters like this if specific complaints are laid, then they are investigated. Otherwise, the usual audit will look into this.

SRI S. K. SAMBANDHAN : Were there complaints from the panchayats that there was undue delay in repairs by this department and if so, what action have the Government taken?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : We have not received any such complaints.

Moral and religious instruction

*204 *Q.*—VIDWAN T. MUTHUKANNAPPAN. Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any instructions have been issued to the authorities of the schools in the State to introduce moral and religious instruction classes in their schools; and

(*b*) if so, from when?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : (*a*) No, Sir.

(*b*) Does not arise.